

Message Text

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54

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /048 W

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P 192003Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1755

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KINGSTON 2996

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT,PFOR,JM,US

SUBJECT: POLITICAL PAYMENTS BY ALCOA

REF: KINGSTON 2968

1. DEPUTY PM DAVID COORE ISSUED A STATEMENT JULY 16 DENYING THE AP STORY OF JULY 15 WHICH ERRONEOUSLY NAMED THE PNP AS THE RULING PARTY WHICH HAD RECEIVED \$25,000 PAYMENT FROM ALCOA. COORE ALSO CONFIRMED ALCOA'S STATEMENT THAT IT GIFT WAS LEGAL UNDER JAMAICAN LAW. "IT IS PERFECTLY LEGAL UNDER JAMAICAN LAW FOR ANY POLITICAL PARTY TO ACCEPT CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ANY COMPANY OR INDIVIDUAL IN JAMAICA. THERE IS NOTHING WRONG. THE ONLY THING WRONG IS IF THE CONTRIBUTION IS USED TO BUY INFLUENCE."

2. IN A SEPARATE PRESS RELEASE, WILLIAM ISAACS, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PM'S OFFICE STATED THAT "...IN THE COURSE OF FUND RAISING DURING EARLY 1972 THE PEOPLES NATIONAL PARTY RECEIVED \$20,000 FROM THE ALUMINUM COMPANY OF AMERICA AS A CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN FOR THE GENERAL ELECTIONS HELD IN 1972."

3. COMMENT: THE EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT WE WILL BE HEARING MUCH MORE LOCALLY ABOUT THE ALCOA PAYMENTS. HAVING RECEIVED MONEY ITSELF, THE PNP HARDLY IS IN A POSITION TO CRITICIZE THE JLP. FURTHERMORE, THE GOJ IS MOVING INTO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE FINAL STAGES OF THE PHASE II NEGOTIATIONS WITH ALCOA

AND DOES NOT WANT TO UPSET THAT PROCESS.
HOUDEK

NOTE: #AS RECEIVED.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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